

BENWELL AND FENHAM URBAN  
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

*YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1897.*

Newcastle-on-Tyne :

PRINTED BY CAIL & SONS, 29 AND 31, QUAYSIDE.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
BENWELL AND FENHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

GENTLEMEN,

I have again to present to you my Annual Medical Report. I have endeavoured in it to shew the incidence of disease and the disorders prevalent, also statistics of mortality, with localities, ages and causes; the birth rate, and other matters which, in my capacity as your medical officer, I think worthy of your attention. The work of your officers has gone on smoothly and harmoniously. Every endeavour on their part has been made to perform their duties earnestly, and to your satisfaction. If in any instance these endeavours have failed, it is not from any laxity in their performance or indifference to the results, but to circumstances over which they have imperfect control, and for reasons which I shall lay before you.

POPULATION.—For statistical purposes this is taken as 12,000.

BIRTHS.

During the year, 484 births (263 males and 221 females) were registered, equal to a rate of 48·4 per 1,000 per annum.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 48·4 |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 40   |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 39   |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 39·7 |
| 1893 | ... | ... | 39·9 |

The per centage of deaths under one year, numbered in proportion to the recorded births, is :—

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 17·1 |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 15·2 |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 19·7 |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 8·56 |
| 1893 | ... | ... | 17·2 |

DATES.—1897.                      Males.   Females.   Total.

|          |     |    |     |    |     |    |
|----------|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|
| January  | ... | 28 | ... | 18 | ... | 46 |
| February | ... | 13 | ... | 19 | ... | 32 |
| March    | ... | 26 | ... | 20 | ... | 46 |
| April    | ... | 25 | ... | 19 | ... | 44 |
| May      | ... | 25 | ... | 20 | ... | 45 |

| DATES.—1897. |     | Males. |     | Females. |     | Total. |
|--------------|-----|--------|-----|----------|-----|--------|
| June         | ... | 23     | ... | 15       | ... | 38     |
| July         | ... | 18     | ... | 21       | ... | 39     |
| August       | ... | 26     | ... | 14       | ... | 40     |
| September    | ... | 24     | ... | 21       | ... | 45     |
| October      | ... | 20     | ... | 15       | ..  | 35     |
| November     | ... | 15     | ... | 22       | ... | 37     |
| December     | ... | 20     | ... | 19       | ... | 39     |
| <hr/>        |     |        |     |          |     |        |
| TOTALS       | ... | 263    |     | 221      |     | 484    |

## DEATHS.

During the year, 201 deaths were registered from all causes and at all ages.

|      |     |     |     |
|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 201 |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 173 |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 210 |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 130 |
| 1893 | ..  | ... | 215 |

THE MORTALITY.—This year on the increased population.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 16·7 |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 16·4 |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 20·0 |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 13·0 |
| 1893 | ... | ... | 21·5 |

## MONTHLY RETURNS —

## DEATHS—

|           |     | 1897. |     | 1896. |     | 1895. |     | 1894. |
|-----------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| January   | ... | 19    | ... | 18    | ... | 14    | ... | 11    |
| February  | ... | 19    | ... | 10    | ... | 15    | ... | 18    |
| March     | ... | 22    | ... | 8     | ... | 18    | ... | 9     |
| April     | ... | 17    | ... | 17    | ... | 12    | ... | 12    |
| May       | ... | 17    | ... | 14    | ... | 12    | ... | 6     |
| June      | ... | 16    | ... | 14    | ... | 9     | ... | 10    |
| July      | ... | 11    | ... | 18    | ... | 23    | ... | 7     |
| August    | ... | 22    | ... | 17    | ... | 22    | ... | 9     |
| September | ... | 17    | ... | 16    | ... | 26    | ... | 11    |
| October   | ..  | 14    | ... | 13    | ... | 18    | ... | 9     |
| November  | ... | 17    | ... | 17    | ... | 21    | ... | 25    |
| December  | ... | 10    | ... | 16    | ... | 20    | ... | 8     |

## LOCALITIES—

|  | 1897. | 1896. | 1895. | 1894. |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| South Benwell ...                              | 50    | 51    | 72    | 41    |
| New Benwell ...                                | 65    | 41    | 47    | 34    |
| Priestman's Cottages &<br>Handyside's Bldgs... | 13    | 7     | 9     | 5     |
| Delaval ...                                    | 17    | 16    | 20    | 8     |
| Benwell and Denton...                          | 13    | 16    | 18    | 10    |
| Fenham ...                                     | 0     | 4     | 1     | 1     |
| River Tyne ...                                 | 1     | 3     | 3     | 0     |
| Scotswood ...                                  | 42    | 35    | 37    | 30    |

## AGES—

|          | Under<br>1 year. | 1 to 5. | 5 to 15. | 15 to 25. | 25 to 40. | 40 to 60. | 60 and<br>above. |
|----------|------------------|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| 1897 ... | 83               | 36      | 12       | 6         | 15        | 20        | 29               |
| 1896 ... | 65               | 28      | 10       | 11        | 12        | 23        | 24               |
| 1895 ... | 81               | 39      | 8        | 13        | 8         | 29        | 32               |
| 1894 ... | 34               | 19      | 11       | 3         | 12        | 17        | 29               |

INFANTILE DEATHS.—83 (equal to 41·3 per cent. of the year's mortality) were of children under one year of age.

|          |      |
|----------|------|
| 1897 ... | 41·3 |
| 1896 ... | 37·5 |
| 1895 ... | 38·5 |
| 1894 ... | 26·1 |

## CAUSES—

|   | 1897. | 1896. | 1895. | 1894. |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Premature Birth and Debility                | 27    | 20    | 15    | 9     |
| Bronchitis and Pneumonia                    | 10    | 12    | 17    | 4     |
| Convulsions                                 | 9     | 1     | 10    | 10    |
| Whooping Cough                              | 2     | 5     | 1     | 0     |
| Meningitis                                  | 2     | 2     | 2     | 0     |
| Marasmus                                    | 8     | 8     | 6     | 1     |
| Measles                                     | 2     | 0     | 0     | 9     |
| Heart Disease                               | 1     | 1     | 0     | 0     |
| Diarrhœa                                    | 4     | 4     | 4     | 1     |
| Intestinal Catarrh and Gastro-<br>Enteritis | 13    | 9     | 20    | 4     |
| Syphilis                                    | 1     | 0     | 2     | 1     |
| Spina Bifida                                | 2     | 2     | 4     | 0     |
| Accident                                    | 0     | 1     | 0     | 0     |
| Scarlet Fever                               | 1     | 0     | 0     | 0     |



Of these infantile deaths, DISORDERS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM account for 12 per cent.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 12   |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 18·4 |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 20·9 |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 11·7 |

DISORDERS OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM for 30 per cent.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 30   |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 32·3 |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 36·2 |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 20·5 |

PREMATURE BIRTH AND CONGENITAL DEBILITY for 32·5 per cent.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 32·5 |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 33·8 |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 18·7 |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 26·4 |

NERVOUS DISORDERS AND DENTITION for 13·2 per cent.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 13·2 |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 4·6  |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 14·8 |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 29·4 |

ZYMOTIC DISEASE for 6 per cent.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 6    |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 7    |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 1·2  |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 29·4 |

DIGESTIVE DISORDERS, PREMATURE BIRTH AND CONGENITAL DEBILITY are the main causes of the infantile mortality. Much ignorance exists as to the food and other requirements of infants. If parents would understand that milk, preferably the maternal supply, is the proper infants' sustenance, and that strong foods of an indigestible nature do not impart strength, many lives would be saved. District nurses would do a good work if they would inculcate this.

Congenital deficiencies, to which parents contribute so large a share, result from divers causes. The habits of a mother re-act on the child; very often the impaired health of the infant is due to the immaturity of the mother. Constitutional deficiencies are handed down. Cleanliness of person and due ventilation of the rooms is very material.



## GENERAL DEATH RATE.

CAUSES.—DISORDERS OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM caused 23 deaths, 11·4 per cent. of the mortality.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 11·4 |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 14·4 |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 16·2 |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 17·6 |

PHTHISIS caused 14 deaths, 6·9 per cent. of the mortality.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 6·9  |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 10·4 |
| 1895 | ..  | ... | 9·0  |

HEART DISEASE caused 13 deaths, 6·4 of the mortality.

|      |     |     |     |
|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 6·4 |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 8·0 |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 8·0 |

DEATHS OVER 60 YEARS.—29 died over 60 years of age, 14·4 per cent. of the mortality.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 14·4 |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 12·7 |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 15·2 |

ACCIDENTS caused 3 deaths, 1·4 per cent. of the mortality.

## ZYMOTIC DEATHS—

|                  |     |     | 1897. |     | 1896. |     | 1895. |     | 1894. |
|------------------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|
| Measles          | ... | ... | 11    | ... | 2     | ... | 0     | ... | 6     |
| Whooping Cough   | ... | ... | 1     | ... | 8     | ... | 4     | ... | 2     |
| Diphtheria       | ... | ... | 0     | ... | 2     | ... | 1     | ... | 0     |
| Puerperal Fever  | ... | ... | 0     | ... | 1     | ..  | 2     | ... | 0     |
| Typhoid          | ... | ... | 2     | ... | 1     | ... | 0     | ... | 2     |
| Scarlet Fever... | ... | ... | 1     | ... | 1     | ... | 2     | ... | 5     |

These Zymotic Deaths are responsible for 7·4 per cent. of the mortality.

|      |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|------|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 7·4  |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 8·6  |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 6·6  |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 11·5 |

And are equal to a Zymotic rate of 1·4 per 1000 per annum.

|      |     |     |     |
|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1897 | ... | ... | 1·4 |
| 1896 | ... | ... | 1·4 |
| 1895 | ... | ... | 1·3 |
| 1894 | ... | ... | 1·5 |

## LOCALITIES OF ZYMOTIC DEATHS—

|  | 1897. | 1896. | 1895. | 1894. |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| South Benwell...                             | 3     | 4     | 6     | 6     |
| New Benwell ...                              | 3     | 3     | 4     | 8     |
| Handyside's Buildings & Priestman's Cottages | 1     | 2     | 2     | 1     |
| Scotswood ...                                | 4     | 3     | 1     | 3     |
| Benwell and Denton ...                       | 1     | 1     | 0     | 1     |
| Delaval ...                                  | 3     | 2     | 1     | 1     |

COMPULSORY NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE  
HAS BEEN MADE AS—

## SCARLET FEVER (17)—

|           | 1897. | 1896. | 1895. | 1894. |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| January   | 3     | 13    | 1     | 3     |
| February  | 0     | 2     | 1     | 1     |
| March...  | 2     | 4     | 1     | 2     |
| April ... | 1     | 3     | 5     | 2     |
| May ...   | 4     | 1     | 5     | 0     |
| June ...  | 1     | 4     | 4     | 1     |
| July ...  | 0     | 6     | 13    | 0     |
| August    | 2     | 7     | 26    | 3     |
| September | 1     | 2     | 20    | 4     |
| October   | 1     | 4     | 9     | 3     |
| November  | 2     | 8     | 8     | 1     |
| December  | 0     | 1     | 15    | 0     |

## SCARLET FEVER (17)—LOCALITIES—

|   | 1897. | 1896. |
|---|-------|-------|
| New Benwell ...                                 | 2     | 25    |
| South Benwell ...                               | 3     | 27    |
| Scotswood ...                                   | 6     | 1     |
| Delaval ...                                     | 2     | 0     |
| Handyside's Buildings & Priestman's Cottages... | 1     | 2     |
| Benwell ...                                     | 3     | 0     |

This year no epidemic of this disease has prevailed. A cluster of cases (5) occurred in Victoria Terrace, Scotswood, confined by means of the Board's action to the members of two families occupying adjacent rooms.

## TYPHOID—

|           | 1897.     | 1896. | 1895. | 1894. |
|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| January   | ... 2 ... | 0 ... | 0 ... | 3     |
| February  | ... 0 ... | 1 ... | 0 ... | 3     |
| March...  | ... 1 ... | 2 ... | 0 ... | 0     |
| April ... | ... 2 ... | 1 ... | 0 ... | 0     |
| May ...   | ... 0 ... | 1 ... | 0 ... | 1     |
| June ...  | ... 1 ... | 0 ... | 0 ... | 2     |
| July ...  | ... 0 ... | 0 ... | 0 ... | 0     |
| August    | ... 0 ... | 1 ... | 0 ... | 2     |
| September | ... 0 ... | 1 ... | 1 ... | 2     |
| October   | ... 1 ... | 0 ... | 1 ..  | 2     |
| November  | ... 1 ... | 0 ... | 0 ... | 3     |
| December  | ... 1 ... | 0 ... | 0 ... | 2     |

## LOCALITIES.—TYPHOID (9)—

|                      |        |   |
|----------------------|--------|---|
| Scotswood ...        | ... .. | 1 |
| Priestman's Cottages | ... .. | 2 |
| Delaval ...          | ... .. | 4 |
| New Benwell          | ... .. | 1 |
| South Benwell        | ... .. | 1 |

TYPHOID.—The cases in Delaval Terrace were in adjacent houses, 8 and 12. At 12, three members of a family were infected; distressed and half-starved, the nursing and attention they received were not satisfactory. The premises were dirty and neglected; several sanitary deficiencies were discovered and remedied. The back lane is unpaved, and the drains at high tides cannot get a free discharge. At South Benwell, the patient was brought home in an infected state. For Typhoid cases, special pails are now used, by means of which the excreta are disinfected, and the disposal of the bowel discharges entrusted to the Board's Officers for disposal.

## DIPHTHERIA (45)—

|               |        |   |
|---------------|--------|---|
| South Benwell | ... .. | 3 |
| New Benwell   | ... .. | 1 |
| West Cottages | ... .. | 1 |

South Benwell.—Three cases in one family. There were no sanitary deficiencies inside premises. The back yard was foul from keeping a number of hens; its smell was offensive. To this I attributed the attacks.

At West Cottages the old question of the use of polluted water cropped up, the family preferring to use it, although an ample and continuous supply was afforded from the Water Company, by whom the district is efficiently supplied.

The polluted supply is interdicted.

#### ERYSIPELAS (6)—

|               |     |     |   |
|---------------|-----|-----|---|
| South Benwell | ... | ... | 4 |
| Benwell       | ... | ... | 1 |
| Scotswood     | ... | ... | 1 |

MEASLES.—531 cases, 11 deaths; a little over 2 per cent. of cases fatal. Of these, 217 were duplicate or triplicate notifications.

#### LOCALITIES—

|   |     |     |       |
|---|-----|-----|-------|
| Denton  | ... | ... | 2     |
| New Benwell                                       | ... | ... | 140   |
| South Benwell                                     | ... | ... | 132   |
| Handyside's Buildings and<br>Priestman's Cottages | ... | ... | 10    |
| Paradise  | ... | ... | 5     |
| Scotswood   | ... | ... | 132   |
| Benwell   | ... | ... | 48    |
| Delaval   | ... | ... | 56    |
| Cowgate   | ... | ... | 6—531 |

#### AGES—

|                    |     |     |       |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| One year and under | ... | ... | 110   |
| Two years          | ... | ... | 72    |
| Three years        | ... | ... | 92    |
| Four years         | ... | ... | 80    |
| Five years         | ... | ... | 69    |
| Six years          | ... | ... | 51    |
| Seven years        | ... | ... | 22    |
| Eight years        | ... | ... | 18    |
| Nine years         | ... | ... | 6     |
| Ten years          | ... | ... | 3     |
| Eleven years       | ... | ... | 2     |
| Twenty and above   | ... | ... | 6—531 |

#### DATE OF NOTIFICATIONS—

|          |     |     |     |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|
| January  | ... | ... | 72  |
| February | ... | ... | 118 |
| March    | ... | ... | 84  |
| April    | ... | ... | 19  |

DATE OF NOTIFICATIONS (*continued*)—

|           |     |     |     |        |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| May       | ... | ... | ... | 6      |
| June      | ... | ... | ... | 15     |
| July      | ... | ... | ... | 2      |
| August    | ... | ... | ... | 11     |
| September | ... | ... | ... | 44     |
| October   | ... | ... | ... | 56     |
| November  | ... | ... | ... | 56     |
| December  | ... | ... | ... | 48—531 |

During the year zymotic disease, as measles, has been very prevalent. Its compulsory notification was adopted three years ago with the expectation that as in scarlet fever its spread would thereby be limited. I cannot congratulate the Council on the result; the infectability previous to the rash appearing and its long incubation both contribute to the difficulty. In other districts a similar result has followed. The three years' trial of notification affords the following results:—

|      |     |     |     |    |
|------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| 1894 | ... | 131 | ... | 6  |
| 1895 | ... | 150 | ... | 0  |
| 1896 | ... | 198 | ... | 2  |
| 1897 | ... | 531 | ... | 11 |

This is a disappointing record, and discounts in my opinion considerably the value of notification. Its value consists only on the intimation of first cases. Notification of successive cases in an infected family, or an account of the gross number of cases attacked, is of little value. With the co-operation (which I hereby thankfully acknowledge) of the managers, teachers, and attendance officers of the schools, together with due vigilance of the Council's officers, early intimation without notification can be got.

My experience in this epidemic has been that little influence is exerted in the spread of measles by the measures taken by your officers. Short of closure of schools, no restraint in its spread is exercised, and even that, in the populous parts of your district, would prove in-operative where children are so closely aggregated and use the streets as playgrounds.

The number of notifications amounts to 4·4 per cent. of the population. Measles being a disease of the young, such an incidence is only possible in districts favoured with a high birth rate such as yours.



## GENERAL WORK.

During the year a careful supervision of the Authority was maintained. The district not being extensive is thoroughly within the "ken" of the staff.

The water supply is good and continuous. The sewerage effective; there are no means for purification of sewage, the surface drainage is provided for. Special attention has been paid to flushing the sewers.

I advise the Council on sanitary matters, and attend the monthly meetings, at which I present a report. I select monthly some portion of the district for examination. I attend magisterial proceedings when my evidence is required, and in any disputed question of nuisance advise with the sanitary inspector. I have visited and examined schools, and have also on occasion examined individually and carefully the school children. At request of County Medical Officer I make returns of sickness and notifications monthly. The Sanitary Inspector reports on every notification. I carefully examine them, and in any cases where doubt or difficulty arises personally visit and determine course of action, in fact, carefully follow the Local Government Board's instructions. The sanitary condition of the Authority is fairly satisfactory. There are no general prejudicial influences affecting the public health.

## SANITARY REQUIREMENTS.

A DISINFECTOR.—The disinfection of rooms is now accomplished by means of dioxide of sulphur fumes. At the same time are exposed articles of clothing, bedding, &c. As, however, a more thorough and complete disinfection would be accomplished by the exposure of infected articles in a chamber capable of being heated to 240 degrees fahrenheit, I beg to recommend its erection to your consideration.

## THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Beyond myself, the staff of the Council consists of twenty-eight men and a boy. The Sanitary Inspector lives at the Board's offices, Atkinson Road, New Benwell. I receive reports from him by telephone daily, and notify him on receipt of notification in same way.

COW SHEDS AND DAIRIES.—Eighteen special visits have been paid. There has been no disease. They are kept in a sanitary state. The milk has not been complained of.

DISTRICT VISITATION.—A house to house visitation has been made of New and South Benwell. The Inspector makes daily visitation to some part of the district.

THE SCHOOLS.—There are two Board and one Voluntary School. Many children are educated in schools beyond the confines of the Authority. The schools have been visited regularly, and are kept clean, great care being exercised by the caretakers. The School Attendance Officer is in close touch with the Sanitary Inspector; he furnishes every information to facilitate the work of the Council. Twenty-four inspections of schools have been made, two disinfected, and disinfectants are regularly supplied.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES are visited weekly; they are kept clean. Propositions for new slaughter houses were made at Scotswood and back Oak Street. The plans of the former were passed subject to conditions suggested by the Council.

#### SANITARY WORK.

|                                |     |     |     |     | Found. | Abated. | In<br>hand. |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|---------|-------------|
| Choked and defective drains    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 82     | 80      | 2           |
| Do. do. gullies                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 95     | 92      | 3           |
| Defective waste pipes          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19     | 17      | 2           |
| Do. and foul water closets     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26     | 25      | 1           |
| Foul privies                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43     | 43      | 0           |
| Defective privies              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5      | 5       | 0           |
| Foul ashpits                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18     | 18      | 0           |
| Defective ashpits              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6      | 6       | 0           |
| Do. hatches                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 67     | 67      | 0           |
| Soakage from ashpits           | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22     | 22      | 0           |
| Defective paving in yards      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 58     | 57      | 1           |
| Foul yards                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23     | 23      | 0           |
| No water supply                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2      | 2       | 0           |
| Accumulation of filth          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2      | 2       | 0           |
| Passages to lime and whitewash | ... | ... | ... | ... | 54     | 54      | 0           |
| Cases of overcrowding          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3      | 3       | 0           |
| Dangerous walls                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19     | 19      |             |
| Number of houses disinfected   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 365    |         |             |
| Visits to infected houses      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1820   |         |             |
| Disinfectants supplied         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 218    |         |             |
| Owners or agents interviewed   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 502    |         |             |
| Informal notices served        | ... | ... | ... | ... | 338    |         |             |
| Formal do.                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 71     |         |             |



SANITARY WORK (*continued*).

|                            |     |     | Found. | Abated. | In<br>hand. |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|--------|---------|-------------|
| Notices complied with      | ... | ... | ...    | 310     |             |
| Do. now being dealt with   | ... | ... | ...    | 14      |             |
| Summonses issued           | ... | ... | ...    | 3       |             |
| Proceedings before notices | ... | ... | ...    | 2       |             |
| Convictions obtained ..    | ... | ... | ...    | 2       |             |

MALTING ROW.—All the old and defective privies have been removed, and automatic flushing closets put in their places, an increased number being provided—8 closets for three privies. The whole of the yard surface has been cemented, and the old offensive privy middens abolished. Tins are to be provided, the contents of which will be removed weekly.

DELAVAL ROAD SEWER has been enlarged at bridge.

NEW BUILDING NOTICE *vide* appendix.

## ASHES AND REPAIRS.

During the year, 2,649 loads have been collected from monthly ashpits, 3,618 from weekly ashpits, and 2,600 from daily scuttles—a total of 7,876 loads. Disposed of:—3,005 loads sent to sea, and 4,871 for agricultural purposes, &c.

SCAVENGING.—The Council employ their own horses, carts and men. These are employed for ashpits, scavenging, road sweeping, repairing, and lighting. The whole of the populated parts are thoroughly and efficiently cleansed once a week. In the latter part of the year, a man was told off specially to attend to the scavenging of New Benwell; he devotes the whole of his time to it.

I am,

Yours obediently,

N. HARDCASTLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Newcastle-on-Tyne,

January, 1898.

(APPENDIX.)

## BENWELL AND FENHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## NOTICE.

The attention of builders is drawn to the following regulations made by the above Council under their bye-laws:—

1. All water-closets must be lighted by a glass tile in the roof, and properly ventilated, either by air-bricks, air-shaft, or some other effectual method.
2. All drains must be jointed with cement and gaskin, and a drain badger must be used to cleanse inside of joints; and no drain must be covered up until tested, an access pipe being put in just outside the curtilage of the building for that purpose.
3. All kitchen and other sinks must be trapped, a cleansing screw being put in at the bottom of the trap.
4. The surface of all yards must be kept at least two inches below the level of the outside back-door steps, and laid with a good fall to the yard gully.
5. When a building is completed, notice in writing to that effect must be sent to the Surveyor, who will inspect the house, and, if it is found by him to be fit for habitation, he will grant a certificate to that effect.

The officers of the Council are instructed to see these regulations strictly enforced.

(Signed) D. N. BRIMS,  
CHAIRMAN.

*N.B.—Drain Badgers may be hired at the Council's Offices  
at a charge of 3d. per day.*

(A) TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1897, in the Urban Sanitary District of BENWELL AND FENHAM, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

| NAMES of LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.<br><br><i>Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.</i> | MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES. |     |     |     |     |     |     |         |           |             | MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE. |                   |         |                     |            |            |            |          |             |          |                 |                         |                  |       |           |                                      |                |           |                     |        |     |   |   |
|--|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|-----------|-------------|---|-------------------|---------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------|-----------|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|---------------------|--------|-----|---|---|
|  | At all Ages.                                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |         |           |             |   |                   |         |                     |            |            |            |          |             |          |                 |                         |                  |       |           |                                      |                |           |                     |        |     |   |   |
|  | (b)  | (c) | (d) | (e) | (f) | (g) | (h) | (i)     | Smallpox. | Scarlatina. | Diphtheria.   | Membranous Group. | Typhus. | Interic or Typhoid. | Continued. | Relapsing. | Puerperal. | Cholera. | Erysipelas. | Measles. | Whooping Cough. | Diarrhea and Dysentery. | Rheumatic Fever. | Ague. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy. | Heart Disease. | Injuries. | All other Diseases. | Total. |     |   |   |
| BENWELL AND FENHAM ... ..  | 201  | 83  | 36  | 12  | 6   | 41  | 23  | Under 5 | 0         | 1           | 0   | 0                 | 0       | 0                   | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0        | 0           | 10       | 1               | 6                       | 0                | 0     | 0         | 0                                    | 17             | 0         | 1                   | 83     | 119 |   |   |
|  |  |     |     |     |     |     |     | 5 upwds | 0         | 0           | 0   | 0                 | 0       | 2                   | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0        | 0           | 1        | 0               | 0                       | 1                | 0     | 0         | 14                                   | 6              | 13        | 2                   | 43     | 82  |   |   |
|  |  |     |     |     |     |     |     | Under 5 | 0         | 0           | 0   | 0                 | 0       | 0                   | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0        | 0           | 0        | 0               | 0                       | 0                | 0     | 0         | 0                                    | 0              | 0         | 0                   | 0      | 0   | 0 |   |
|  |  |     |     |     |     |     |     | 5 upwds | 0         | 0           | 0   | 0                 | 0       | 0                   | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0        | 0           | 0        | 0               | 0                       | 0                | 0     | 0         | 0                                    | 0              | 0         | 0                   | 0      | 0   | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |     |     |     |     |     |     |         | Under 5   | 0           | 0   | 0                 | 0       | 0                   | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0        | 0           | 0        | 0               | 0                       | 0                | 0     | 0         | 0                                    | 0              | 0         | 0                   | 0      | 0   | 0 | 0 |
| TOTALS ... ..  | 201  | 83  | 36  | 12  | 6   | 41  | 23  | Under 5 | 0         | 0           | 0   | 0                 | 0       | 0                   | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0        | 0           | 0        | 0               | 0                       | 0                | 0     | 0         | 0                                    | 17             | 0         | 1                   | 83     | 119 |   |   |
|  |  |     |     |     |     |     |     | 5 upwds | 0         | 0           | 0   | 0                 | 0       | 0                   | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0        | 0           | 0        | 0               | 0                       | 0                | 0     | 0         | 0                                    | 0              | 0         | 0                   | 0      | 0   | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |     |     |     |     |     |     | Under 5 | 0         | 1           | 0   | 0                 | 0       | 0                   | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0        | 0           | 10       | 1               | 6                       | 0                | 0     | 0         | 0                                    | 17             | 0         | 1                   | 83     | 119 |   |   |
|  |  |     |     |     |     |     |     | 5 upwds | 0         | 0           | 0   | 0                 | 0       | 0                   | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0        | 0           | 0        | 0               | 0                       | 0                | 0     | 0         | 0                                    | 0              | 0         | 0                   | 0      | 0   | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |     |     |     |     |     |     |         | Under 5   | 0           | 0   | 0                 | 0       | 0                   | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0        | 0           | 0        | 1               | 0                       | 0                | 0     | 1         | 11                                   | 6              | 13        | 2                   | 43     | 82  |   |   |

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

|  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Deaths occurring outside the district among person-belonging thereto ... | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Area and Population of the District to which this Return relates :—

Area in Acres ..... 1,367  
Population (1891) ..... 10,501

Death Rates } (General: ~~17~~ per 1,000 population, estimated to middle of 1896.  
{ Infant (under one year of age) : ~~17~~ per 1,000 births registered.

~~17~~ 16.7  
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(B) TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1897, in the Urban Sanitary District of BENWELL AND FENHAM; classified according to DISEASES, AGES and LOCALITIES.

[illegible]

Notification of Infectious Disease has been compulsory in the District since December 15th, 1889.

No Isolation Hospital provided.





